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Institute of Nutrition,  
Metabolism and Diabetes  
Institut de la nutrition,  
du métabolisme et du diabète

# Connections

## Message from INMD Scientific Director



In August 2014 Governing Council directed CIHR leadership to implement a series of enhancements to ensure that CIHR investments in health research have the greatest potential for impact on the health of Canadians. These changes aim to better support the Institutes and improve overall effectiveness by restructuring Institute Advisory Boards, reallocating half of Institute targeted research budgets into a common research fund (now called the Roadmap Accelerator Fund), reorganizing the structure of Ottawa-based Institute support staff, and developing a framework to support the regular assessment of the performance and relevance of Institutes.

An Institute Evaluation Framework to assess Institute performance was approved by Governing Council in November 2015. INMD will be the first Institute to undergo a full evaluation at the time of transition

of the Scientific Director. This evaluation will include assessing the relevance and performance of the Institute using common indicators across four dimensions: relevance, transformative impact, role and impact as convener and catalyst, and operational effectiveness.

Given the time required to undertake this fulsome Institute Evaluation, Governing Council approved an extension of my second term for a year (until December 2017). It is anticipated that the Institute Evaluation will be completed and reported to Governing Council in February 2017. A call for interested potential applicants for the next Scientific Director of INMD will occur shortly thereafter—stay tuned!

Philip M. Sherman, MD, FRCPC  
Scientific Director, INMD

## CIHR Funding Results

INMD congratulates the successful applicants who received funding in the Kidney Research Scientist Core Education and National Training (KRESCENT)/CIHR **Post-Doctoral Fellowships** and **New Investigator Awards** competitions:

### KRESCENT/CIHR Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Nominated Principal Applicant	Institution	Project Title
Yulu Liu (Supervisor: Adrian Salic)	Harvard Medical School Boston	Understanding chronic diseases caused by defective retrograde trafficking in the primary cilia, and devising strategies to correct it.

### KRESCENT/CIHR New Investigator Awards

Moumita Barua	University Health Network Toronto	Molecular diagnosis in adult-onset familial and sporadic focal and segmental glomerulosclerosis
Ana Kovalinka	University Health Network Toronto	Systems biology approaches to decipher novel mechanisms and markers of antibody mediated rejection in kidney transplantation
Amber Molnar	McMaster Univ.	Association of beta blocker use with mortality in patients with heart failure and severe chronic kidney disease
Kara Shick-Makaroff	Univ. Alberta	Electronic patient-reported outcomes in clinical kidney practice (ePRO kidney)

## Researcher Profile

### Paul Spagnuolo, PhD

#### *American Society of Nutrition 2016 Mead Johnson Young Investigator Award*



Paul Spagnuolo is an Associate Professor in the Department of Food Science at the University of Guelph. He received his PhD from Univ. Waterloo (2008) and was a post-doctoral fellow in Dr. Aaron Schimmer's lab at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Univ. Toronto (2008-2012). His research focuses on the development of novel therapeutics for the treatment of acute myeloid

leukemia with a focus on nutraceuticals (food-derived bioactive compounds). He has participated in projects resulting in the discovery of 8 novel anti-cancer agents and 4 patents. He also sits on the Board of Directors for the Natural Health Products Research Society. Paul was recently awarded the 2016 Mead Johnson Award from the American Society for Nutrition, which recognizes a young investigator for a single outstanding piece of nutrition research. His research has been supported by the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Stem Cell Network, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada.

## CIHR Funding Opportunities

### *Fellowships: Fall 2016 Priority Announcements*

INMD is pleased to announce the launch of the following Fall 2016 Fellowship Priority Announcements:

- **Gastroenterology** in partnership with The Canadian Association of Gastroenterology
- **Clinical Nutrition** in partnership with The Canadian Nutrition Society
- **Kidney Disease** in partnership with The Kidney Foundation of Canada

**Application deadline: November 1, 2016.** Visit [ResearchNet](#) for more information.

### *Gold Leaf Prizes*

CIHR's new suite of prizes will recognize outstanding researchers across all pillars of health research (biomedical, clinical, health services and policy and population and public health) whose work improves the health perspectives of all Canadians. CIHR will present a Gold Leaf Prize to a researcher in each of the following categories:

- Gold Leaf Prize for Impact
- Discovery
- Outstanding Achievements by an Early Career Investigator
- Transformation

**Nominations close: September 6, 2016.** Visit the [CIHR website](#) for more information.

### *Planning and Dissemination Grants: Institute/Initiative Community Support (Summer 2016 Competition)*

Planning and Dissemination Grants are intended to provide support for planning and/or dissemination activities consistent with the mandate of CIHR and relevant to CIHR Institutes, or Initiatives.

**Application deadline: August 16, 2016.** Visit [ResearchNet](#) for more information.

### *SPOR Innovative Clinical Trials Initiative*

CIHR is launching a new **initiative** to support the conduct of innovative trials in Canada under Canada's Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR). The first funding opportunities under this initiative will provide funding for:

- Catalyst Grants
- Multi-year Grants
- Mentorship Chairs  
(anticipated launch date late July 2016)

Email the [CIHR Contact Center](#) for more information.

### *SPOR PIHCI Network: Comparative Program and Policy Analysis Grant*

This funding opportunity will support comparative policy analysis and/or policy implications of system-scalable innovations to examine what and how policies across various provincial/territorial jurisdictions yield similar or different health outcomes.

**Application deadline: August 9, 2016.** Visit [ResearchNet](#) for more information.

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**The Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes (INMD)** supports research to enhance health in relation to diet, digestion, excretion, and metabolism; and to address causes, prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, support systems, and palliation for a wide range of conditions and problems associated with hormone, digestive system, kidney, and liver function.

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